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September 28, 2011

Michael Machado Delta Protection Commission P.O. Box 530 Walnut Grove, California 95690

Dear Mr. Machado:

On behalf of the California Delta Chambers and Visitor's Bureau, I am writing to express my strong support and commitment for a National Heritage Area (NHA) designation in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The Delta Chambers can potentially serve as a partner for a Delta NHA by assisting the management entity with tasks such as local outreach to economic and recreation organizations in the Delta, identification of potential NHA partner sites, and marketing/promoting NHA activities and partner sites via our website.

The Delta Chambers is an organization of chambers of commerce, visitors bureaus, businesses, and boosters in the Delta, with members who have established roots in the Delta due to a love for this boating and fishing paradise. Established over forty years ago, the Delta Chambers strives to enhance enjoyment for visitors to the Delta, while protecting and preserving the area's fragile beauty.

A Delta NHA will be a valuable tool to help the Delta gain visibility as a destination for recreation and tourism activities, thus assisting with both economic development and public education. Since the Delta NHA is a community-driven approach to heritage conservation and economic development, it is imperative that there be public-private partnerships to support historic preservation, natural resource conservation, recreation, heritage tourism, and educational projects to tell the "Delta story".

Again, on behalf of the Delta Chambers, I am writing to express support for a Delta NHA and look forward to partnering with the DPC to further pursue this effort.

Sincerely,

Bill Wells

Executive Director info@californiadelta.org